MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It was not possible; that is all I can say.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I wish to know *why* it was not possible. The matter was pending consideration for over a year; and it was an important matter?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I gave my answer to that question to Mr. Damodaran Asan, namely, that the necessity and the urgency of the matter were decided only after the meeting of the Finance Committee.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): So, the necessity for making the changes in the Secretariat, and the urgency of the matter were felt by the authorities only *after* the Budget was prepared.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): So, that was the nature of the urgency.

It is stated in the answer that it was not a regular reform of the Secretariat, I wish to know what would constitute a reform of the Secretariat?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): If you deal with the whole staff, the whole machinery and the system of work, then that would be reform. We have not done that.

Action against newspapers under the Newspapers Regulation.

65. **MR. MURUVELIL PACHU PILLAI** (*Shertallai*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of newspapers whose licenses have been cancelled ever since the enactment of the Newspapers Regulation;

(*b*) the names of such newspapers;

(*c*) the names of such newspapers whose security money has been added to the Government coffers under the Regulation, and the total money thus got by the Government;

(*d*) the number and names of the newspapers which have been called upon to submit explanations for not taking action against them under the Newspapers Regulation; and

(*e*) the number and names of the newspapers who have on this order apologised to the Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Two.

(*b*) The 'Prabodhakan' and the 'Sentinel'.

(*c*) The cancellation of the license of a newspaper entails the forfeiture of the license fee under Section 5 of Regulation, V of 1101. The license fee of each of the two papers was Rs. 25.

(*d*) No newspapers were asked to submit explanations. Four newspapers, *viz.*, (1) The 'Navasakti', (2) The 'Powra Prabha', (3) The 'Prathidinam', and (4) The 'Bhaje Bharatham' were called

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upon to publish unreserved expression of regret for having published certain objectionable articles, failing which they were told that Government would be constrained to take action against them.

(*e*) (1) The 'Navasakti', (2) The 'Powra Prabha' and (3) The 'Prathdinam'.

Standard of knowledge of V. S. L. C. Holders.

66. **MR. ITTOOP ITTEECHAN** (*Kunnatnad*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they consider that the age and standard of knowledge of the V. S. L. C. holders are sufficient for the profession of Vernacular School teachers?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. Under Rule 54 (*a*) of the Education Code, the V. S. L. C. is a prescribed general educational qualification for teachers of Classes I to IV of Primary Schools.

Under Rule 55, no one will be granted a license to teach if he is not 16 years of age.

Seats for women in Municipal Councils.

67. **MRS. ELIZABETH KURUVILA** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they realise the incongruity of continuing to maintain at the present time the clause in the Municipal Regulation debarring women from seats on Municipal Councils?

MR. F. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Yes; and they have asked the Additional Head Sirkar Vakil to make suitable provisions for removing the incongruity in the draft Bills he has under preparation to amend the Municipal Regulation.

Construction of a Legislative Council Hall.

68. **MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the question of the construction of a Legislative Council Hall is still (16-4-1106) engaging their attention;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the extent to which it has progressed and the reason for the delay in carrying out the proposal; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative, the time at which and the manner in which the question was disposed of?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government have not yet decided the site on which the Council Hall should be located.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*b*).

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): With reference to part (*b*), may I know whether the Government had fixed any site at any time and whether such sites were considered by Government?

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